

Docket No. 42534-8200

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

Yutaka Toya et al.

Serial No.: 10/642,967

Filed: 08/18/2003

For: SEWING MACHINE NEEDLE

Examiner:

Group Art Unit: 1754

January 21, 2004

Irvine, California 92614

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1459

Dear Sir:

In an attempt to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent Office the following references, which was found during the prosecution of a co-pending European Patent Application:

U.S. Patent No. 6,332,417
Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 06254282
Japanese Patent Application No. 58-112584
German Patent No. DE 36 36 706
German Patent No. DE 30 27 534

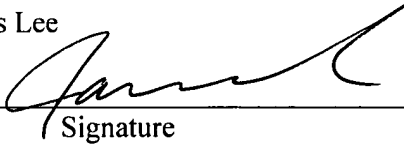
Copies of these references and a form PTO-A820 are attached.

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that each item contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart international application not more than three months prior to filing this statement.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would help further the prosecution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1459,
on January 21, 2004

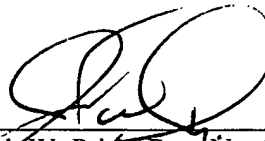
by: James Lee


Signature

Date of Signature: January 21, 2004

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER LLP



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